

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/273,102

Examiner

Daniel S. Felten

Applicant(s)

GLASSMAN ET AL.

Art Unit

3624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/15/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-6, 11-17 and 19-22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Arguments presented in the Appeal Brief filed August 15, 2005 in response to the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 3-6, 11-17 and 19-22 reciting Manasse in view of Shiobara in the Office Action mailed April 07, 2003 are persuasive. Thus prosecution of the application is REOPENED to submit the following:

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 3-6, 11-17 and 19-22 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art is Manasse (US 5,802,497) and Shiobara et al (US 6,105, 864). Claim 22 requires, among other limitations, that the second system utilizes "*the received information to verify that the party seeking the refund is the recipient of the scrip.*" Neither Shiobara nor Manasse suggest this feature. Shiobara discusses refunds in Figure 4 and col. 7, lines 35-63, but does not mention verifying the party seeking the refund.

Claim 22 also requires scrip that includes "*a value derived from an identification of a recipient of the scrip.*" Manasse discloses a code 412 on a scrip that uniquely identifies the generator of the scrip...." The *generator* of the scrip is apparently different from the *recipient*. There is nothing in the applied references or in the prior art that a value is derived from the identification of the recipient.

-- Thus the prior art of record fails to show singularly or suggest in combination the aforementioned features and limitations of claim 22

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Claim 11 requires, “*comparing...the second value with the first value*” and “*enabling ... a refund for the electronic currency if the first value matches the second value.*” Shiobara is related to refunds, but does not teach or suggest comparing the second value with the first value and enabling a refund if the two values match.

--Thus the prior art of record fails to show singularly or suggest in combination the aforementioned features and limitations of claim 11.

Claim 17 requires, “*receiving...identifying information identifying the party seeking the refund and values for transforming the information identifying the party seeking the refund into the value identifying to whom the currency was issued.*”

---Upon further consideration, the prior art of record fails to show singularly or suggest in combination the aforementioned feature and limitation of claim 17.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel S. Felten whose telephone number is (571) 272-6742. The examiner can normally be reached on Flex.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (571) 272-6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



DSF

April 27, 2006

Daniel S Felten
Examiner
Art Unit 3624

VINCENT MILLIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

